

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
MACON DIVISION

JOHN ORLANDO WALKER,

Petitioner

VS.

KEVIN ROBERTS, WARDEN,

Respondent

NO. 5:05-CV-222 (CAR)

**PROCEEDINGS UNDER 28 U.S.C. §2254  
BEFORE THE U. S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

**ORDER DENYING APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

Petitioner herein has requested this court to provide legal representation to him in the above-captioned §2254 proceeding. Tab #22. The court has this day by separate order directed petitioner to amend his petition to set forth grounds for relief as to his conviction and sentence. Until such time as petitioner submits his amended petition, it would be premature to consider providing counsel to petitioner. Petitioner WALKER is advised, however, that the court on its own motion will consider appointing legal counsel for him if and when it becomes apparent that legal assistance is required in order to avoid prejudice to his rights. Certainly, if an evidentiary hearing is required, counsel will be provided for the petitioner.

Accordingly, at the present time, petitioner's motion for appointment of legal counsel is DENIED.

SO ORDERED AND DIRECTED, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of MAY, 2006.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Claude W. Hicks, Jr.".

CLAUDE W. HICKS, JR.  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE